



Security Council

Distr.: General
4 December 2001
English
Original: Arabic and English

Letter dated 4 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the final communiqué issued by the African mini-summit on peace and stability in the Central African Republic, which was held at Khartoum on Monday, 3 December 2001 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elfatih Erwa
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 4 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic and French]

Final communiqué of the African mini-summit on peace and stability in the Central African Republic held in Khartoum on 3 December 2001

1. On the initiative of His Excellency Lieutenant General Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of the Sudan and Chairman of the current session of the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), and at his kind invitation, and in conformity with the decisions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) adopted in Algiers in 1999 and Lusaka in 2001 rejecting non-constitutional changes of government in Africa and rejecting changes of regime by force, as affirmed in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, an African mini-summit was convened in Khartoum, capital of the Sudan, on 3 December 2001 to discuss modalities for the achievement of peace and stability in the Central African Republic.

2. The participants in the summit were:

President Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir of the Republic of the Sudan, current Chairman of CEN-SAD;

Dr. Frederick J. T. Chiluba, President of the Republic of Zambia and current Chairman of OAU;

President Idriss Deby of the Republic of Chad;

President Ange-Félix Patassé of the Central African Republic;

And Major General Abu Bakr Yunus, member of the historic leadership of the great 1 September revolution and Secretary of the Interim General Committee for Defence [of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya].

3. Also participating in the mini-summit were: Mr. Amara Essy, Secretary-General of OAU; Dr. Muhammad al-Madani al-Azhari, Secretary-General of CEN-SAD; and Mr. Lamine Cissé, Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the Central African Republic.

4. Lieutenant General Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of the Sudan and current Chairman of CEN-SAD, opened the summit with an address of welcome to the presidents and delegations participating in the summit. He wished them a pleasant stay in the Sudan and thanked them for their immediate response and their participation in the summit, stating that their presence confirmed their interest in achieving peace and stability in the Central African Republic. He also reviewed the dimensions of the crisis and their repercussions on the countries of the region and on all parts of the African continent.

5. Dr. Frederick J. T. Chiluba, President of the Republic of Zambia and current Chairman of OAU, addressed the opening session and expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the Government of the Sudan for its kind hospitality, the warm reception received and its initiative in convening the mini-summit. He affirmed that

the people of the African continent were capable of solving their problems, and he appealed to the Central African parties to renounce violence and have recourse to dialogue and negotiation for the settlement of the political and economic problems from which their countries were suffering. Speaking in his capacity as current Chairman of OAU, he expressed his readiness to make every effort, in coordination with the Chairman of CEN-SAD, to achieve security and stability in Central Africa.

6. At the first session, His Excellency President Ange-Félix Patassé of the Central African Republic reviewed developments in the situation in his country, focusing in particular on the crisis under way since the attempted coup of May 2001. He also voiced the expectation that the mini-summit would adopt effective decisions that would help bolster security, stability and peace and enable Central Africa to cope with the economic problems from which it was suffering.

7. After the survey of the situation in the Central African Republic presented by President Ange-Félix Patassé, the session was addressed by President Idriss Deby of the Republic of Chad. He stated that his country was interested in the developments in Central Africa because it was a neighbouring State. He urged the summit to take constructive decisions that would help to achieve peace and stability in Central Africa. The session was also addressed by Major General Abu Bakr Yunus, member of the historic leadership of the great 1 September revolution and Secretary of the Interim General Committee for Defence. He indicated that the international leader Colonel Muammar Al-Qadhafi had been interested in the convening of the summit as having been commissioned by CEN-SAD to oversee security and peace within the Community and given his sustained commitment to the stability of the situation in Central Africa.

8. The session was also addressed by Mr. Amara Essy, Secretary-General of OAU, who expressed his appreciation for the initiative taken by the Sudan in convening the summit and gave an account of the meeting of the OAU Mechanism for the Prevention, Management and Resolution of Conflicts in Africa recently held in Addis Ababa to discuss the situation in the Central African Republic. Dr. Muhammad al-Madani al-Azhari, Secretary-General of CEN-SAD, and Mr. Lamine Cissé, Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the Central African Republic, also addressed the session. They stressed the importance of the matter under consideration, appealing to the Central African parties to renounce violence and achieve reconciliation and expressing the readiness of their respective organizations to provide all possible support for the achievement of security and stability in Central Africa.

9. After a thorough discussion characterized by transparency and vigour, the African mini-summit decided as follows:

1. To establish, for an interim period, a force to keep the peace, ensure security and achieve stability in Central Africa under the auspices of President Omer Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, current Chairman of CEN-SAD, and of Colonel Muammar Al-Qadhafi by virtue of his responsibility for the achievement of security and peace within the Community, and to do so in coordination with President Ange-Félix Patassé of the Central African Republic and in consultation with the United Nations. The Secretary-General of OAU will also invite the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution to take a decision in this regard. A committee of those concerned will discuss the details of the force, and the

summit will also appeal to the United Nations, OAU and friendly countries to provide the force with every possible form of support.

2. To form a political committee of the ministers for foreign affairs of the Sudan, Chad, Libya, Burkina Faso and Gabon, the Secretary-General of OAU, the Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of CEN-SAD, the latter to serve as secretary of the committee, in order to maintain contacts with a view to achieving national conciliation in Central Africa.

3. (a) To establish a fund to provide urgent support to Central Africa under the auspices of the Secretary-General of CEN-SAD in order to mobilize support from States members of CEN-SAD and from regional and international organizations.

(b) To instruct the CEN-SAD African Development Bank to cooperate with banks operating in Africa and regional and international banks in commencing a programme to address the economic situation in Central Africa in an ongoing manner by means of investments and the establishment of infrastructure projects.

4. To request President Ange-Félix Patassé to facilitate a general amnesty.

10. The summit welcomed the invitation extended by the Government of the Central African Republic to nationals outside the country, including opposition members and others, especially in the neighbouring countries, to return to their homeland and also welcomed its undertaking to provide all necessary facilities for this purpose. It further appealed to the United Nations and its specialized agencies to help in the voluntary return of refugees and in their resettlement.
